(c) whether Government would also impose a clause of accountability on the functioning of State Power Boards and also probe into the high incidence of power theft ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The Rural Electrification subsidy for supply of power to the rural sector at uneconomical tariff is payable by the State Governments to the respective State Electricity Boards. There is no proposal before the Central Government to curtail such subsidy.

(b) and (c) The State Electricity Boards are autonomous bodies under the State Governments concerned and are responsible for generation, transmission and distribution of power within the State in the most efficient and economical manner. They are also statutorily obliged to generate a surplus of 3% on the net fixed assets at the beginning of the year. Theft of electricity has been declared as a cognizable offence. The Power Ministers' Conference held on 8th & 9th January, 1993 has adopted an Action Plan to improve the overall performance of the Electricity Boards by reduction of transmission and distribution losses by 1% per year during the 8th Five Year Plan, among other measures.

Setting up of Power Projects by NTPC in Joint Sector

1731. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Thermal Power Corporation has been allowed to go ahead with setting up of joint sector power projects by Government;

(b) if so, when the proposal was approved by Government and what is the estimated amount of investment proposed to be made by the NTPC for the joint sector power projects; and

(c) what are the places/States where such joint sector projects are to be located ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (c) The projects proposed to be taken up in the joint sector by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) are :—

Sl. No.	Proposed Project	Location
1.	Godavari	Uppada, East Godavari Districts, Andhra Pradesh.
2.	Bhilai	Bhilai, Madhya Pradesh.
3.	Yamunanagar	Yamunanagar, Haryana.

In addition, the NTPC has bid for the Bawana Project of the Delhi Electric Supply undertaking (DESU) in response to DESU's invitation seeking proposals for the implementation of this project in the private sector. NTPC would seek the approval of the Government after these proposals are firmed up.

Power theft in the country

1732. DR. NARREDDY THULAST REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that power theft in the country is increasing year by year;

(b) what is the quantum of units of power theft that have taken place during the years 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(c) what is the break-up thereof, State-wise;

(d) what is the total loss of revenue as a result thereof; and

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to minimise power theft ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (e) The Practice followed for computing Transmission and Distribution (T&D) losses including power thefts is to take the difference of energy sent out and energy billed to ultimate consumers in a system. Since segregation of technical and Commercial losses is not being done, the amount of theft of energy cannot be quantified.

The state-wise details regarding T&D losses for the years 1990-91 & 1991-92 are given in the Statement attached [See below].